## **Red Flags for Swallowing Difficulty**

## **STOP.....** If your resident or family member

- Cannot sit upright
- Is not awake enough to accept food
- Has teeth or dentures missing or not fitting
- Gets distracted while eating
- Needs to be reminded there is food in his mouth

## WATCH.....does he/she

- Complains of pain or discomfort when eating
- Not chew or chews very slowly
- Has pieces of food fall out of mouth
- Has food in his mouth after swallowing
- Liquids dribble out of mouth
- Coughing and /or gagging
- Wet or hoarse voice after the swallow



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Name of resident Your name

Observation reported to Date/time

Staff document in resident file